ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Gain coefficients g1 to g4 of image data to undergo a sharpness correction and a high-frequency component F of the overall image are calculated. The gain coefficients g1 to g4 are decreased in value the larger the high-frequency component F of the overall image and increased in value the smaller the high-frequency component F of the overall image. In a situation where the high-frequency component F of the overall image is large and it is feared that noise will be emphasized by applying a sharpness correction, the gain coefficients for the sharpness correction are reduced. This assures that noise will not be emphasized even if the sharpness correction is applied.